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wherein said converging means converges said light flux as a spot with a smaller diameter and performs aberration correction at said spot by employing a larger one of said numerical apertures, with respect to one of said optical discs having a thinner one of said first layers, and

wherein a thickness of each of said first layers of said N type of optical discs is about 1.2mm or less;

(b) a signal processing apparatus including:

signal processing means, responsive to one of (i) a reproduction signal, corresponding to said information signal, from said photo detecting means and (ii) receipt of recording data, corresponding to said information signal, for recording on said disk, for generating an output signal corresponding to said information signal for performing one of a reproducing operation and a recording operation; and

system controlling means coupled to said signal processing means for controlling generation of the output signal of said signal processing means.

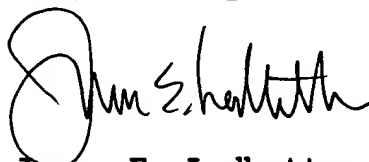
REMARKS

At the outset, the Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy shown to them and their attorney during a personal interview on August 2, 2000. During this interview, the above amendments to the claims were discussed, with the exception of new claim 35.

In addition to the claim amendments, this Preliminary Amendment makes formal changes to the drawings and specification. The changes to Figs. 4A and 4B correspond to drawing changes in the parent reissue application and are supported by the originally filed specification of the present continuation reissue application which refers to respective focal distances FD and working distances WD" of Figs. 4A and 4B. The specification has been amended to correct typographical errors in the original patent.

Entry of the above amendments and early and favorable consideration of this application in the form of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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